WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

SUB A6 7
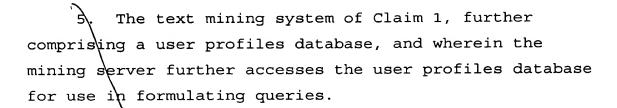
1. A text mining system for providing query-based search data for use in a lead generation system accessible by the client via the Internet, comprising:

5   a data acquisition process for extracting text data from Internet web sites, Internet newsgroups, Internet mailing lists, and corporate text files;

a database for storing the extracted text data;

a text mining server for formulating and executing

10   query-based searches of the database, and for providing output views representing the results of the searches;

a repository for storing the output views; and

a web server for providing access to the text mining server via a web browser and the Internet, such that the

15   client may execute query-based searches on line via the Internet.

2. The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the corporate text files are items of digitally recorded

20   correspondence.

3. The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the corporate text files are digital voice records.

25   4. The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the data acquisition process is implemented with a web crawler.

5. The text mining system of Claim 1, further comprising a user profiles database, and wherein the mining server further accesses the user profiles database for use in formulating queries.

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6. The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the data acquisition process further accesses Internet voice-to-text files.

7. A text mining method for providing query-based search data for use in a lead generation system accessible by the client via the Internet, comprising the steps of:

5   storing the extracted text data in a first database;

formulating and executing query-based searches of the first database, and for providing output views representing the results of the searches;

storing the output views in a second database; and

10   providing access to the text mining server via a web browser and the Internet, such that the client may execute query-based searches on line via the Internet.

8. The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the 15 corporate text files are items of digitally recorded correspondence.

9. The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the corporate text files are digital voice records.

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10. The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the data acquisition process is implemented with a web crawler.

25   11. The text mining method of Claim 7, further comprising the steps of storing user profiles in a user profiles database, and of accessing the user profiles database during the step of formulating queries.

ADD A7>